



6 October 2016

Inquiry Secretary  
Health, Communities, Disability Services and Domestic and Family Violence Prevention  
Committee  
Parliament House  
George Street  
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Re: *Health (Abortion Law Reform) Amendment Bill 2016*

Dear Sir/Madam,

We are a crisis pregnancy centre that assist women in Sydney, New South Wales. We also provide post-abortion care for women suffering after abortion.

We would like you to understand that the current proposal to change the law in Queensland is not in the best interest of women. The women suffer long term effects and the grief can take years before it comes to the surface.

**Dingle, Alati, Clararino, Najman and Williams (2008)** –Increased risk with abortion vs no abortion:

- twice the risk for depression
- almost 3 times greater risk for illicit drug use
- twice the risk for an alcohol use disorder

The women that come to our centre have a range of issues and they don't have the funds to heal their wounds. For the most part of it they are on anti-depressants and are unable to fully function within the community.

We do not see any benefit in changing the laws as this would only create more pain and grief for women.

If you are interested in discussing the matter further, please contact our office during business hours below.

Regards,

Linda Smyth  
Executive Officer